

The *Briefing*, published bimonthly by the City of Bloomington, is mailed directly to our residents and businesses. Direct comments to Communications Administrator Diann Kirby, City of Bloomington, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington MN 55431-3027; PH 952-563-8818; TTY 952-563-8740; FAX 952-563-8715; E-MAIL dkirby@ci.bloomington.mn.us. If you require Braille, larger print or computer disk, contact Diann Kirby.

Visit our Web site at  
www.ci.bloomington.mn.us

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Elected officials are presented by the City of Bloomington for informational purposes only.

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COMMITTED TO URBAN FORESTS



2004 City-sponsored Arbor Day event.

THE NATIONAL ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION DESIGNATED BLOOMINGTON AS A “Tree City USA” for its commitment to the city’s community forests. To become a Tree City USA, four standards must be met including having a tree board or department, maintaining a tree care ordinance, operating a comprehensive community forestry program and holding an Arbor Day observance. *See photo left.*

“This year’s record number of Tree City USA communities shows a growing level of dedication and care for our urban forests,” said John Rosenow, president of the National Arbor Day Foundation. “It shows the people of Bloomington value trees for the beauty, grace, comfort and practical blessings they bring.”

This is the 17th consecutive year that Bloomington has been honored with a “Tree City USA” designation.

GIVE ’EM A GOOD SOAK – TREES MAY BE AT RISK UNDER DRY CONDITIONS

SINCE LAST JULY, PRECIPITATION IN THE metropolitan area has been almost 10 inches below normal. As a result, trees and shrubs could be at risk. The City encourages residents to water trees and shrubs, not only on their property, but also on the boulevard, until soil moisture returns to normal.

- Water trees once per week with a garden hose set on low pressure or with a sprinkler for about one hour.
- **Do not over water.** Trees generally require one inch of water per week.
- A few heavy waterings are much better than many light, shallow waterings.

- The best time to water is early morning or late afternoon when the temperature is cooler.
  - Water the soil areas directly beneath the foliage. Do not water beyond the drip-line or closer than three feet to the trunk base.
- For information, call 952-563-8762.

KNOW THE CITY CODE

MOWING, TRIMMING OR ALTERING VEGETATION NOT ALLOWED ON CITY PROPERTY

THE LAND BETWEEN RESIDENTIAL property and adjacent ponds, wetlands, lakes and waterways is often owned by the City. In these areas, the City works to preserve native vegetation as a means of protecting environmental and water quality, and creating wildlife habitats. City land is held for the enjoyment of all residents and cannot be reserved for exclusive private use. It is the obligation of property owners to know their boundary lines so as not to disturb City property. The City Code prohibits the following in public areas:

- Damaging, cutting, carving, killing or injuring the bark of any tree or plant.
- Disturbing or mowing grass areas.
- Impairing its natural beauty or usefulness.
- Placement of playground or recreational equipment.
- Planting.
- Dumping lawn wastes or other refuse.

To preserve City property for the long-term benefit of all residents, the City will prosecute violations that are subject to misdemeanor penalties of up to \$1,000 and 90 days in jail. For more information, call Park Supervisor Ed O’Brien at 952-563-8759 or Park Maintenance Manager Paul Edwardson at 952-563-8977.

LIMITED OPEN BURNING ALLOWED IN CITY

OPEN BURNING IN BLOOMINGTON IS limited to private recreational fires and restoration burns conducted by companies approved by the Bloomington Fire Prevention Division and the Department of Natural Resources. The burning of yard waste, grasses and brush is restricted in Bloomington. These materials should be recycled by your regular trash hauler or taken to NRG Compost Site in Burnsville, 952-736-1915. For more information, call 952-563-8933 or visit the City’s Web site at ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: Open burning.

RULES AND REGULATIONS RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

DUE TO THE INCREASED POPULARITY OF recreational motorized vehicles, the City amended and clarified regulations regarding their use. Based on safety concerns and nuisance complaints, the City’s ordinance now prohibits motorized scooters and skateboards, go-carts and mini bikes on Bloomington streets, parks and sidewalks. These vehicles can only be used on private property with the owner’s permission or on designated areas approved by the City Council.

The ordinance does not apply to vehicles already regulated by state law, including snowmobiles, licensed mopeds, electric or motorized bicycles, or Segways. Motorized wheelchairs used by disabled persons are not restricted by the ordinance. For information, call Lieutenant Paul McCullough at 952-563-8834.

WHAT’S NEW ON THE CITY’S WEB SITE  
AIRPORT EXPANSION, NOISE AND RELATED DEVELOPMENT

INFORMATION ON THE MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT RUNWAY construction, noise mitigation programs and more have taken flight on the City’s Web site – your passport to news. Visitors can make connections to the Metropolitan Airports Commission’s updated Web site with interactive maps showing noise and operations information, as well as flight tracks and noise contours. Users can also get on board with what’s developing in the Airport South District with a link to Metropolitan Council’s Web site. For information, visit www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keyword: Airport.

“BUY”ING INTO POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT  
ORGANIZATIONS MERGE TO BENEFIT BLOOMINGTON YOUTH

THE BLOOMINGTON UNITED FOR Youth’s (BUY) MERGER WITH **BLOOMINGTON Youth Coffeehouse Initiative (BYCI)** will further BUY’s mission to engage the community in the positive development of youth. The partners will share resources, leadership and fundraising efforts.

BUY’s youth-driven, adult-guided initiatives include BYCI and Tomorrow’s Voices Today, a television show for teens. For more information, call David Miller at 952-563-4918.